

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 03540 301500Z
ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 IGA-02 AID-05
OMB-01 TRSE-00 L-03 H-01 /054 W
-----301524Z 053930 /44

P 301342Z MAR 77
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 185
INFO SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 3540

AF/W FOR SMITH

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, NI
SUBJECT: REPORTED FMG ARREARAGES

REF: (A) CDRDARCOM ALEX VA 28 1837Z MAR 77 (B) SECDEF 7973
19 1805Z FEB 77 (C) SECDEF 04 1857Z MAR 77 (D) STATE 66890
(E) STATE 65580

1. WE ARE SERIOUSLY CONCERNED THAT CURRENT DIFFERENCES AND CONFUSION
OVER WHETHER AND HOW MUCH FMG OWES FOR PAST AND CURRENT MILITARY
TRAINING MAY RESULT IN APRIL 15 :75-OFF OF ALL NIGERIAN MILITARY
TRAINING IN THE U.S. REF (C) INDICATES THAT THIS WILL BE THE CASE,
WHILE REFS (A) AND (B) PROVIDE CONFLICTING INDICATIONS
OF TOTAL AMOUNT OWED, REF (E) STATE FMG HAS NO OUTSTANDING
ARREARAGES, AND REF (D) REPORTS THE AMOUNT IS BEING REVIEWED BY
DOD.

2. WE HAVE IMPRESSION OF CONSIDERABLE CONFUSION IN ACCOUNTING ON
THE U.S. SIDE, PLUS AN APPARENT READINESS TO TAKE DRASTIC ACTION
WHICH WOULD BE SURE TO HAVE SUBSTANTIAL AND HARMFUL POLITICAL
REPERCUSSIONS HERE. SUDDEN CUT-OFF OF U.S. MILITARY TRAINING
WOULD RAISE THE SPECTER OF U.S. UNDEPENDABILITY AND ARBITRAR-
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NESS PRECISELY WHEN WE ARE BEGINNING TO GET AWAY FROM THAT IMAGE
AND WHEN OUR POLITICAL COOPERATION WITH FMG IN MATTERS SUCH AS
ZAIRO-ANGOLA DISPUTE AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN PROBLEMS IS OF
INCREASING
IMPORTANCE TO US. WE HAVE FURTHER IMPRESSION OF
ARBITRARY AND IN SOME RESPECTS RETROACTIVE CHANGE OF GROUND
RULES RE MILITARY TRAINING COSTS AND PAYMENT PROCEDURES.

3. WE DO NOT SEEK TO WHITEWASH THE FMG; BUREAUCRATIC INEFFICIENCY AND DELAYS ARE ENDEMIC, AND PAYMENT FOR U.S. MILITARY TRAINING HAS BEEN A CHRONIC HEADACHE. WE DO, HOWEVER, BELIEVE IT NOT AT ALL IN U.S. INTEREST TO TAKE THE THREATENED ACTION, PARTICULARLY WHEN THE ACTUAL STATE OF ACCOUNTS IS FAR FROM CLEAR. STRONGLY URGE THAT U.S. POLITICAL MILITARY INTERESTS IN NIGERIA BE TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION AND THAT WAYS BE FOUND TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM WITHOUT TRAUMATIC RUPTURE OF A RELATIONSHIP THAT HAS PROVED PARTICULARLY VALUABLE TO US.

CROSBY

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3140164
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORTED FMG ARREARAGES
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, NI
To: STATE
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